

Message Text

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12
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 EB-07 DLOS-06 SAL-01

OES-06 /086 W
----- 007557

R 151700Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3257
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKTAVIK
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6700

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GE, JA, PLOS
SUBJ: FAREWELL CALL ON KENJI NAKAO, JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR

1. I PAID A FAREWELL CALL ON THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO
THE GDR, KENJI NAKAO, ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15. OUR
TALK LASTED ABOUT FOURTY MINUTES AND THERE NO OTHER
PARTICIPANTS.

2. MAO'S DEATH

I RAISED THE SUBJECT OF MAO'S DEATH, ASKING FOR HIS VIEWS.
HE RESPONDED THAT NO ONE COULD YET ASSESS WHAT MAY FOLLOW
OR WHAT EFFECT IT WOULD HAVE ON PRC OFFICIALS AND POLICIES.
HIS ONLY RESPONSE WAS THAT IT WAS INTERESTING THAT THE
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PRC, WHILE IT HAD RECEIVED THE CONDOLENCES OF THE

GOVERNMENTS WITH WHICH IT HAD RELATIONS, HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE CONDOLENCES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ROMANIA. HE ASKED ME ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRAT PARTIES' PLATFORMS AS THEY RELATED TO THE PRC, AS HE KNEW THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM REFERRED TO TAIWAN. MY RESPONSE WAS THAT PLATFORMS EXPRESSED THE OPINIONS OF THE PLATFORM COMMITTEES AND ELEMENTS OF BOTH PARTIES BUT THAT THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE HAD TO RESPOND TO THE DEVELOPING REALITIES OF FOREIGN POLICY. HE RESPONDED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THIS VERY WELL. HE SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT BOTH PLATFORMS EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY OF GOOD US/JAPANESE RELATIONSHIP.

3. JAPANESE/GDR RELATIONS

NAKAO SAID THAT JAPANESE/GDR RELATIONS HAD PROGRESSED SLOWLY. IT IS EVIDENT THAT GDR FOLLOWS CLOSELY AND WITH PLEASURE SOVIET POLICY WHICH IS UNDERSTANDABLE BECAUSE OF THE GDR LEADERSHIP'S RELIANCE ON THE SOVIET UNION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GDR TO THE SOVIET UNION. JAPAN AND THE GDR HAD NOT NEGOTIATED A CONSULAR CONVENTION. HE ASKED ABOUT OUR NEGOTIATIONS AND I TOLD HIM OUR POSITION. UPON HIS DIRECT QUESTION, I REMARKED THAT THE US WOULD NOT ENTER INTO A CONSULAR CONVENTION SIMILAR TO THE US/GDR CONVENTION.

4. HE MENTIONED THE JAPANESE/GDR TRADE AGREEMENT, WITHOUT ELABORATING DETAILS, EXCEPT TO SAY THE GDR HAD A PROBLEM OF PAYMENT IN HARD CURRENCY.

5. LAW OF THE SEA

HE KNEW THE US WAS PROPOSING FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GDR AND COMMENTED THAT THE GDR AND ICELAND HAD AGREED TO FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS. HE DID NOT SEEM TO BE TOO WELL INFORMED, OR AT LEAST WAS RETICENT, ON LAW OF THE SEAS MATTERS. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT, AS THE US, SOVIET UNION AND JAPAN HAD CRITICAL PROBLEMS REGARDING PASSAGE OF STRAITS, THEIR SIMILAR PROBLEMS MIGHT LEAD

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TO A SOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE.

6. IN CLOSING, HE SAID AGAIN THAT HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE INCREASING INTEREST IN THE US OF THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD US/JAPANESE RELATIONS, AND THERE WAS A SIMILAR RECOGNITION IN JAPAN OF THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING AND THE GOOD RELATIONSHIP OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.COOPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BERLIN06700
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760350-0248
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760960/aaaabyvj.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAREWELL CALL ON KENJI NAKAO, JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, GC, JA, US, (NAKAO, KENJI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006